

## **REMARKS**

The application was filed with original claims 1 through 20 and 22 through 28. A claim 21 was inadvertently omitted. By way of this Amendment, claims 22 through 28 have been renumbered as claims 21 through 27. The dependency of the claims has been amended accordingly. Thus, with this Amendment, independent claim 1 is pending with claims 2 through 20 depending therefrom. Independent claim 21 is pending with claims 22 through 27 depending therefrom.

Claim 20 has also been amended to correctly depend from claim 1. Claim 1 was examined as if it depended from claim 1, as stated by the Examiner.

Claims 1 through 9, 14, and 20 were rejected as anticipated by Tameishi '692.

Claims 10 through 13 and 15 through 19 were indicated as objected to for being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but otherwise allowable.

Claim 21 (former claim 22) was not rejected in the Office Action other than for the objection for lack of antecedent basis for "the film" in line 9. Claim 21 has been amended to correct the antecedent basis objection. Accordingly, it appears that claim 21 is allowable. Dependent claims 22 through 27 (original claims 23 through 28) were indicated as allowed. Accordingly, it appears that claims 21 through 27 are allowed. If the applicant's understanding of the status of claims 21 through 27 is incorrect, the Examiner is respectfully requested to explicitly set for the proper status of the claims.

Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 as originally presented patentably defines over Tameishi '692. Claim 1 calls for the packaged absorbent article to have a top cover and a baffle. The garment facing side of the baffle comprises a hook material defined in a pattern thereon. A hook compatible backing sheet is releasably attached to

the baffle at the garment facing side of the baffle. This backing sheet has dimensions so as to extend beyond the lateral sides and longitudinal ends of the absorbent article when attached to the garment facing side of the baffle. The article and attached backing sheet are folded into a configuration such that the lateral sides of the backing sheet are brought together and the backing sheet defines a pouch for the article. This unique configuration is fundamentally different from the package configuration disclosed by Tameishi '692.

Referring to Figs. 10 through 13 of Tameishi '692, it is clearly seen that the garment facing side 20b of the absorbent article is not placed against the main wrapper sheet 80, but is disposed so that the garment facing side 20b faces upward. A main adhesive cover material 82 is placed over the main adhesive body 74. The main adhesive cover 82 can thus be the only material corresponding to the "backing sheet" of claim 1 of the present application that is releasably attached to the baffle. However, this main adhesive cover 82 in Tameishi '692 does not have dimensions so as to extend beyond the lateral sides and longitudinal ends of the absorbent article. The main adhesive cover 72 does not form a pouch when the article is folded. With the configuration according to Tameishi '692, the main wrapper sheet 80 is the material that has dimensions extending beyond the lateral sides and longitudinal ends of the article, and which forms the pouch upon folding the article. Tameishi '692 does suggest that the main wrapper sheet 80 and main adhesive cover 82 may be a continuous piece of material, such as illustrated in Fig. 8. However, even with this embodiment, the material that overlies the main body adhesive 74 is not the material having dimensions so as to extend beyond the longitudinal ends and lateral sides of the absorbent article so as to

form a pouch. The structure and configuration of the packaged absorbent article according to Tameishi '692 is fundamentally different from that set forth in claim 1.


Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 patentably defines over Tameishi '692 and is allowable. Claims 2 through 20 only further patentably define the invention of claim 1 and is allowable for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 1.

With the present Amendment, applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are allowable and that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable action thereon is respectfully requested. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at his convenience to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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